(b) and (c) The investigation carried out by the Government at the premises of M/s Dabur (India) Limited, Sahibabad (Uttar Pradesh) did not reveal on visual examination presence of glass particles in different batches of the product manufactured and maintained as 'Control Samples' by the said company.

(d) In veiw of reply to (b) and (c), does not arise. However, surveilliance on this product has been strengthened.

Unused Equipment

5717. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that equipment are lying unused at university services and several other centres; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Employment Guarantee Scheme

5718. SHRI BHIMRAO VISHNUJI BADADE : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the cabinet has sanctioned the proposal for implementation the Employment Guarantee Scheme in all the blocks of the country;

(b) if so, the numbr of unemployed youth from poor families who are likely to get employment under the scheme; and

(c) the amount allocated by the Union Government for the Scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) The Cabinet has approved the proposal for implementing the Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) in all the rural blocks of the country.

(b) The primary objective of the EAS is to provide wage employment during lean agricultural season to rural poor who get themselves registered with Panchayats for seeking employment. So far more than 2.41 crores people have got themselves registered under the scheme.

(c) Rs. 1970 crores have been allocated for the scheme during 1997-98.

[English]

Road projects to Private Sector in Orissa

5719. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Orissa Government has sought approval of Union Government for handing over Road Development Projects to Private Sector;

(b) if so, the details of each project; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Development Work

5720. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether development works are not being undetaken in Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh and in other parts of the State but the same are being shown in the paper; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) and (b) Rural Development works are undertaken by the Ministry, through out the country including Allahabad as well as all parts of the Uttar Pradesh as per laid down guidelines.

[Translation]

Ban on Old Vehicles

5721. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to impose a ban on plying of vehicles that are more than 10 years old, on the roads specially in the metropolitan cities; and

(b) if so, by when ?